

Inventor: GUENIN
Serial No. 10/559,617
The U.S. National Stage Application of
International Application No. PCT/FR04/01365
Art Unit 3727

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

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Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 and 9 (cancelled)

4. (previously presented) A hairbrush comprising a handle (1) and a head (2) that extends from said handle and comprises surface bristles (3) that are used to detangle, smooth and shape wet hair (11) during the performance of a styling operation using a dryer (8) generating a first air flow (9) in the direction of said head (2), said head (2) being at least partially hollowed out and having, at least in the area equipped with said bristles (3), through-holes including an inlet and an outlet, said through-holes running perpendicular or parallel to a longitudinal axis (4) of said brush, characterized in that the axes (6) of said inlet and outlet of said through-holes (5) form between them an angle of less than 90° so that the air propelled by said dryer (8) and circulating inside said head (2) emerges in the vicinity of said inlet through which said air entered, thus constituting a second flow (10) in a direction approximately opposite that of said first flow (9), characterized in that said

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head (2) comprises at least one recess (14) that runs parallel to a longitudinal axis (4) and is closed at two transverse ends (15, 16) thereof and, disposed inside said recess in an approximately axial plane, an insert (17) composed of a longitudinal bar (18) whose ends (19) are fastened into the transverse end walls (15, 16) of the head of said brush, the top edge (20) of said bar being located approximately in the virtual extension of the surface of the area of the head in which said recess is formed, while a bottom edge (21) is spaced apart from the bottom (22) of said recess, said bar (18) being extended transversely in the form of multiple, evenly spaced parallel branches (23) whose top edge (25) is located approximately in the virtual extension of the surface of the head and whose bottom edge rests against the bottom of the recess.

5. (previously presented) A hairbrush according to claim 4, characterized in that the area of each opening existing between the bottom edge (21) of the bar (18) and the bottom (22) of the recess (14) is equal to that of the openings delimited between adjacent ones of said branches (23), the bar (18), and the opposing edge (26, 27) of the recess.

6. (previously presented) A hairbrush according to claim 4, characterized in that the area of each opening

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existing between the bottom edge (21) of the bar (18) and the bottom (22) of the recess (14) is smaller than that of at least one of the two openings delimited between adjacent ones of said branches (23), the bar (18) and the opposing edge (26, 27) of the recess.

7. (previously presented) A hairbrush according to claim 4, characterized in that the areas of the openings delimited between adjacent ones of said branches (23), the bar (18) and the opposing edge (26, 27) of the recess are different.

8. (previously presented) A hairbrush according to claim 7, characterized in that said head comprises at least two recesses (14) and, disposed inside each recess, an insert (17) composed of a longitudinal bar (18) extended transversely by multiple parallel branches (23), and in that said openings (7a) of each recess (14) that are nearest the other recess have an area larger than that of the openings (7b) of the first recess that are farthest from the other recess.

10. (previously presented) A hairbrush comprising a handle (1) and a head (2) that extends from said handle and comprises surface bristles (3) that are used to detangle, smooth and shape wet hair (11) during the performance of a styling operation using a dryer (8) generating a first air flow (9) in the direction of said head

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(2), said head (2) being at least partially hollowed out and having, at least in the area equipped with said bristles (3), through-holes including an inlet and an outlet, said through-holes running perpendicular or parallel to a longitudinal axis (4) of said brush, characterized in that the axes (6) of said inlet and outlet of said through-holes (5) form between them an angle of less than 90° so that the air propelled by said dryer (8) and circulating inside said head (2) emerges in the vicinity of said inlet through which said air entered, thus constituting a second flow (10) in a direction approximately opposite that of said first flow (9) characterized in that said head (2) is hollow and cylindrical, in that at least three longitudinal radial partitions (31, 32) run through the interior of said hollow head from one end (15) of the latter (16) to the other so as to divide said interior into at least three chambers (33, 34) of approximately equal volume, and in that the lateral wall (30) of the head is pierced with at least six longitudinal slots (7) that open in pairs into each chamber.

11. (New) A hairbrush comprising a handle (1) and a head (2) that extends from said handle and comprises surface bristles (3) that are used to detangle, smooth and shape ~~the~~ wet hair (11) during the performance of a styl-

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ing operation using a dryer (8) generating a first air flow (9) in the direction of said head (2), said head (2) being at least partially hollowed out and having, at least in the area equipped with said bristles (3), through-holes including an inlet and an outlet, said through-holes running perpendicular or parallel to a longitudinal axis (4) of the said brush, characterized in that said head (2) of the brush comprises at least one longitudinal airtight partition (28, 31, 32) and that the axes (6) of said inlet and outlet of said through-holes (5) form between them an angle of less than 90° so that the air propelled by said dryer (8) and circulating inside said head (2) emerges in the vicinity of said inlet through which said air entered, thus constituting a second flow (10) in a direction approximately opposite that of said first flow (9).

12. (New) A hairbrush according to claim 11, comprising a cylindrical or semi-cylindrical head (2), characterized in that the axes (6) of the two openings (7) of each of said through-holes (5) advantageously form between them an angle between 30° and 60°.

13. (New) A hairbrush according to claim 11, comprising a flat head (2), characterized in that the axes (6) of the two openings (7) of each of said through-holes (5) advantageously form between them an angle between 30° and 60°

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and open on the same side (12) of the head.

14. (New) A hairbrush according to claim 11, characterized in that said head (2) is hollow, in that an approximately median longitudinal partition (28), connected along two edges longitudinal to the lateral wall of the head, runs through the interior of said hollow head from one end (15) of the latter to the other (16) so as to divide said interior into two chambers (29) of approximately equal volume, and in that the lateral wall (30) of the head is pierced with four longitudinal slots (7) that open in pairs into each chamber.